

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claim 1 as shown below. The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings.

1. (Currently amended) A targeted therapeutic delivery system for the controlled delivery of a therapeutic compound to a region of a patient comprising, in combination with a therapeutic compound, stabilized lipid microspheres including:

(a) a drug-free outer layer comprising a lipid, the outer layer having a first surface and a second surface; and

(b) a gas-free inner layer comprising an oil, the inner layer being disposed over the first surface of the outer layer,

wherein the inner layer defines void, the void containing encapsulating a gas or gaseous precursor and an oil, wherein said lipid comprises at least one phosphatidic acid and the therapeutic compound is dispersed within the inner layer.

2-46. (Canceled).

47. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said gas or gaseous precursor is selected from the group consisting of fluorine, perfluorocarbons, sulfurhexafluoride, and perfluoroethers.

48. (Canceled).

49. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said lipid further comprises at least one phosphatidylcholine, and at least one phosphatidylethanolamine.

50. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 49 wherein said phosphatidylcholine is selected from the group consisting of dioleoylphosphatidylcholine, dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine and distearoyl-phosphatidylcholine; said phosphatidylethanolamine is selected from the group consisting of dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine-PEG 5,000, dioleyl-phosphatidylethanolamine, and N-succinyl- dioleyl-phosphatidylethanolamine; and said phosphatidic acid is dipalmitoylphosphatidic acid.

51. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of silicone oil, cod liver oil, mineral oil, plant oil, oil comprising fluorinated triglycerides, biocompatible saturated fatty acids, biocompatible unsaturated fatty acids, biocompatible partially hydrogenated fatty acids, silicon-based oils, and synthetic oils.

52-54. (Canceled).

55. (Previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said synthetic oil is selected from the group consisting of triolein, trimyristin, triacetin, tripalmitin, tristearin, tributyrin, glyceryl monooctanoate, and glyceryl monostearate.

56-59. (Canceled).